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In re Patent No. 6,976,647 :  
Issue Date: December 20, 2005 :  
Application No. 10/732,801 :  
Filed: December 11, 2003 :  
Attorney Docket Number: 029318-0998 :

ON PETITION

This is a decision on the petition, filed August 20, 2008, under 37 CFR 1.182, requesting the issuance of a duplicate Letters Patent for the above-identified application.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

Since it is U.S. Patent and Trademark Office practice to assure mailing of all papers on the date indicated, there is a strong presumption that papers duly addressed and indicated as mailed, such as the Letters Patent in this application, are timely delivered to the addressee. To overcome this presumption, a verified statement with supporting evidence, such as any records which would disclose the receipt of other correspondence mailed from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on or about December 20, 2005, but fail to disclose receipt of the Letters Patent mailed on that date, should be promptly submitted. Further, copies of records on which receipt of the Letters Patent would have been entered had it been received are required.

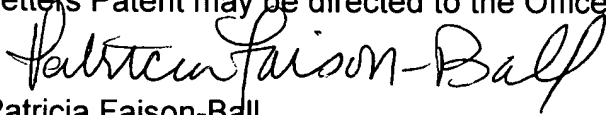
However, if the loss of the Letters Patent was not the fault of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office or if petitioner simply wishes to avoid overcoming the above-noted presumption, a petition may be filed under 37 CFR 1.182 accompanied by a petition fee of \$400.00 requesting a duplicate Letters Patent. Upon receipt of the petition and petition fee, the request for a duplicate Letters Patent will be granted.

Petitioners state that the Letters Patent was received from the USPTO and was subsequently lost. The petition fee in the amount of \$400.00 has been applied.

A copy of this decision is being forwarded to Office of Data Management for issuance of a duplicate Letters Patent.

The Office of Data Management is directed to issue a duplicate Letters Patent.

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision may be directed to the undersigned Senior Petitions Attorney at (571) 272-3212. Inquiries regarding the issuance of a duplicate Letters Patent may be directed to the Office of Data Management at (703) 308-9250.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Patricia Faison-Ball". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "P".

Patricia Faison-Ball  
Senior Petitions Attorney  
Office of Petitions

cc: Niomi Farmer (Fax – (571) 270-9753)